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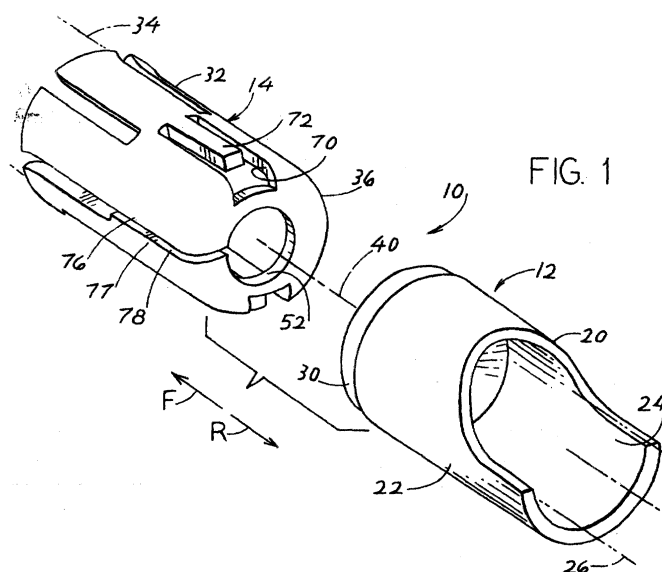
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(54) **Contact formed of joined pieces**

(57) A contact (10) is formed of a terminus (12) that forms the rear termination end of the contact, and a mater (14) that forms the front contact mating end such as a socket (32) or pin, the front of the terminus being joined to the rear of the mater. The terminus front portion forms a groove (142, 138) and the mater rear end has a part (50, 154) that lies in the groove and is locked therein. The maters can be completely gold plated while the terminus is not plated at all, to minimize the use of gold while avoiding the need for masks to selectively

plate only portions of a unitary contact. In one contact design, the groove (138) at the front end of the terminus opens forwardly (F) and is formed by concentric inner and outer groove walls (140, 142), with the rear end of the terminus having a cylindrical part (154) that fits into the groove with a press fit and/or crimp of the outer groove wall. In another contact construction, the groove (42) opens radially outward (O) and the rear end of the terminus forms a radially inwardly projecting flange (50) that lies in the groove.



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 29 August 2002	Examiner Salojärvi, K
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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